

Unit 12: Me and the world

1 Language: Talking about identity

a Complete the sentences with the correct words.

- centred defines identity influence myself part product reflected
- 1 I think of my _____ in terms of my age and social position.
- 2 I see _____ as a bit of an adventurer.
- 3 I'm a _____ of my upbringing, education and nationality.
- 4 My life is _____ on the people closest to me: my family and friends.
- 5 What's also had a great _____ on me was my time in the Amazonian rainforest.
- 6 I need to feel _____ of some positive social movement.
- 7 I like to think I'm _____ in all the things I do and care about.
- 8 What _____ me most is my profession, I suppose.

b Cover exercise 1. Complete the sentences with one or more words where you see | marks.

- 1 What's | great influence | me | the time | won | speech contest. What's had a great influence on me ...
- 2 | defines | most | my sense | humour and fun. _____
- 3 | see myself | understanding | sympathetic person. _____
- 4 My life | centred | children, grandchildren | hobbies. _____
- 5 I | product | DNA. _____
- 6 | need | feel part | organisation or group | some kind. _____
- 7 | think | my identity | terms | qualifications | profession. _____
- 8 | like | think | reflected | volunteer work | do. _____

c Read the web postings. Match expressions 1–8 with their meanings A–H.

SELF AND IDENTITY: *When do you most feel like your real self? Post your comment [here](#).*

I always feel like my real self. I guess I'm lucky because I **(1) have a strong sense of self**. – *Pietro*

I only feel like my real self at home. When I travel, I often **(2) feel a loss of identity**. It's my home and familiar surroundings that **(3) give me a strong sense of identity**. – *Clara*

I know what Clara means. I feel kind of awkward when I'm abroad but as soon as I get home **(4) feel like my normal self** again. – *Will*

Travelling's difficult if you find it hard to **(5) identify with** people of other countries and cultures. I've never found this a problem myself. – *Susana*

I think **(6) having a sense of belonging** is crucial to your identity. If you belong to a group – family, friends, whatever – people recognise you, they reflect you, so you know who you are and where you fit. – *Chung*

I **(7) am my true self** when I'm with my friends. I feel completely comfortable with them. – *Christa*

I believe that if you **(8) are true to yourself** and don't try to act like someone else or be phoney, you won't have identity problems. – *Ahmet*

- A behave according to your beliefs and do what you think is right
- B feel you are part of something
- C feel you are similar to someone and can understand them
- D feel as you usually do
- E give you an awareness of who you are
- F have an awareness of who you are
- G be who you really are
- H feel unlike yourself

2

Language: Talking about identity

Complete the sentences with the missing expressions.

- 1 No one knew me at all so I felt _____.
- 2 He has such a strong _____ that he never feels insecure.
- 3 When I was with them, I had a wonderful _____. I feel a bit lonely now.
- 4 In order to _____ others, you need to be sensitive and open-minded.
- 5 When I'm out walking in the forests and hills, I'm my _____.
- 6 For a while I was confused and disorientated but I feel _____ again.
- 7 She is always _____ herself, which is great.
- 8 What gives me _____ is being a parent. That's a very clear role!

3

Language: Recruitment

a Test your spelling! Complete the words and expressions about recruitment with vowels.

- | | |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| 1 grp dscssns: _____ | 6 clnts: _____ |
| 2 slry: _____ | 7 mn bjctv: _____ |
| 3 cnddt: _____ | 8 ntrnshp xprnc: _____ |
| 4 rfrncs: _____ | 9 nw grdts: _____ |
| 5 cvrng lttr: _____ | 10 ntrvw stg: _____ |

b Put the words of the sentences in the correct order.

- 1 I / for / are / five / job / there / candidates / believe / this / .
- 2 My / challenging / find / to / a / is / objective / job / main / .
- 3 He / interview / very / reach / was / to / stage / the / lucky / .
- 4 We / clients / positively / to / with / communicate / our / try / .
- 5 The / part / took / best / in / group / candidates / discussions / .
- 6 You / three / at / need / references / least / provide / to / .
- 7 New / work / get / to / some / try / experience / should / graduates / .
- 8 Your / should / about / first / not / salary / be / question / your / .
- 9 Please / CV / covering / us / send / letter / with / a / your / .
- 10 Internship / for / a / this / experience / requirement / is / job / .

4

Language extension: recruitment

a Match definitions 1–10 with expressions A–J.

- | | | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| A seek | D be a must | G attributes | I thrive on |
| B take pride in | E have what it takes | H ongoing professional | J promotion prospects |
| C leave | F fill a position | development | |

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1 holiday from work ____ | 5 continuing growth of work skills | 8 be a necessity or requirement |
| 2 chances to rise in your career ____ | and knowledge ____ | ____ |
| 3 look for ____ | 6 enjoy and handle well ____ | 9 have the talent or ability ____ |
| 4 choose someone for a job ____ | 7 qualities or characteristics ____ | 10 feel proud of ____ |

b Complete the job advertisement with these words: a must attributes fill pride thrives what

ASSISTANT STORE MANAGER, RETAIL, up to £35,000
 Wanted: Assistant Store Manager who can raise profits and maintain the excellence of the store. Personal
 (1) _____: You must be someone who takes (2) _____ in their job and (3) _____ on
 challenge. Good leadership and communication skills are (4) _____. If you think you have (5)
 _____ it takes, please email us your CV. We aim to (6) _____ this position by the end of July.

Reading: What ordinary people can achieve

Read the text below, then choose the correct heading (A–I) for each paragraph (1–6). There are two extra headings you should not use. Write your answers in the boxes provided. The first one (0) has been done for you.

An interview with author David DeFord about his book *Ordinary people can achieve the extraordinary – a practical guide to goal achievement*

(0) _____

DeFord: It all came to me last year at a New Year’s party that I had been invited to. At some point a friend of mine asked the classic question: What’s your New Year’s resolution? I didn’t have one. In fact, I was a bit annoyed by the question itself, because I thought about all those resolutions people have around New Year’s Day but never take seriously.

(1) _____

DeFord: I do not have any numbers to prove my theory, but I would say that the top three plans for the coming year are ‘stop smoking’, ‘lose weight and exercise’ and ‘spend more time with family and friends’.

(2) _____

DeFord: For sure, there are some people who get their act together, stay focused and try to achieve the goals they have set themselves. The majority of people, however, are not determined enough to resist certain temptations.

(3) _____

DeFord: Not necessarily, but I just think their approach could be different. This is actually what I talk about in my book. I have met so many people who complain about their jobs, their partners, their children or their looks. They are very passionate about the fact that they want to change. If I ask them what they are already doing to change their lives, they usually do not know what to reply.

(4) _____

DeFord: Well, I am convinced that if you keep doing what you are doing at the moment, you will keep getting exactly what you are getting right now. If you really want to break this cycle, you need to change the way you approach your problems.

(5) _____

DeFord: Reading my book, people might for example find an answer to the question of how to finally take control of their future, how to find their “great one thing” or how to select the right goals. They will learn about the benefits of keeping a journal and about different ways to overcome their fears and doubts.

(6) _____

DeFord: If you want to break the – what I call – New Year’s resolution cycle, you need to focus and finally take some action. It’s all about setting yourself a goal and being determined and willing to do whatever it takes to eventually achieve it.

A	Would you say that people are not strong enough?
B	What made you write this book?
C	Would you say some people have got the wrong dreams?
D	Do you think that most people do not abide by their resolutions?
E	What are some of the issues that you address in your book?
F	What will happen if you do not change anything in your life?
G	What would you say are common New Year’s resolutions?
H	What message are you trying to send to your readers?
I	Do you have an answer for people lacking determination?

0	B
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	

6

Language extension: Horoscopes

Read the text below. Some words are missing. Choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D) for each gap (1–8).

Horoscopes

Horoscopes are something people (0) _____ totally different about. Some people loathe the idea (1) _____ being influenced in their way of feeling and acting by what seems to be (2) _____ predictions. Others, however, cannot wait to open the paper in the morning and see what the future (3) _____ for them so that they know how to act in their jobs or private lives. And then there are those who might (4) _____ read their horoscope but not take it too seriously. These are usually people (5) _____ like having good things confirmed and do not care about negative statements (6) _____ much.

Horoscopes have to do with astrology, which is a set of systems and beliefs based (7) _____ the idea that the position of the planets and stars can predict a person’s fate. Even though people might be sceptical towards astrology, they have been dealing with it (8) _____ thousands of years.

- 0 A feel B discuss C argue D decide
- 1 A of B from C for D about
- 2 A random B impossible C various D illogical
- 3 A holds B was holding C has held D held
- 4 A well B good C badly D bad
- 5 A who B which C whose D whom
- 6 A too B to C pretty D fairly
- 7 A on B at C over D of
- 8 A for B up to C since D so far

7

Language extension: Extroverts and introverts

Read the text below. Some words are missing. Choose the correct word (A–P) for each gap (1–13). There are two extra words you should not use. Write your answers in the boxes provided. The first one (0) has been done for you.

Do extrovert people have an easier life?

Do you see yourself as an extrovert (0) _____? Today’s society tells us that being an introvert (1) _____ is old-fashioned and makes your life much harder than it has to be. People who are (2) _____ seem to have many benefits in everyday life. They are said to achieve higher job positions, tend to be better paid and find partners more (3) _____. But is it true that holding back and displaying (4) _____ can have a negative effect on your (5) _____ and professional life?

While it must be said that most people respond (6) _____ to an open attitude and a (7) _____ behaviour, this does not mean that introverts are automatically perceived as (8) _____ or unsociable. Even if you are a shy person, you can send the right (9) _____ in almost every social context. For example, you can easily communicate that you are interested in what others say by holding eye-contact and nodding. Smiling goes a long way, too, if you are too timid to speak your mind (10) _____. So instead of trying hard to be something you are not, make sure the (11) _____ you try to communicate are the right ones. You might already have discovered that (12) _____ behaviour that doesn’t fit your personality is usually unsuccessful. People will perceive you as more honest and (13) _____ if you admit to your weaknesses and work on improving your strong points.

A adopting	E extroverts	I messages	M positively
B charming	F initially	J person	N shyness
C differently	G likeable	K personal	O signals
D easily	H openness	L personality	P unfriendly

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
J													

Key

exercise 1

a

1 identity, 2 myself, 3 product, 4 centred, 5 influence, 6 part, 7 reflected, 8 defines

b

suggested answers

1 What's had a great influence on me was the time I won a speech contest.

2 What defines me most is my sense of humour and fun.

3 I see myself as an understanding and sympathetic person.

4 My life is centred on my children, (my) grandchildren and (my) hobbies.

5 I am a product of my DNA.

6 I need to feel part of an organisation or group of some kind.

7 I think of my identity in terms of my qualifications and profession.

8 I like to think I'm reflected in the volunteer work I do.

c

1 F, 2 H, 3 E, 4 D, 5 C, 6 B, 7 G, 8 A

exercise 2

1 No one knew me at all so I felt a **loss of identity**.

2 He has such a strong **sense of self** that he never feels insecure.

3 When I was with them, I had a wonderful **sense of belonging**. I feel a bit lonely now.

4 In order to **identify with** others, you need to be sensitive and open-minded.

5 When I'm out walking in the forests and hills, I'm my **true self**.

6 For a while I was confused and disorientated but I feel **like my normal self** again.

7 She is always **true to** herself, which is great.

8 What gives me a **(strong) sense of identity** is being a parent. That's a very clear role.

exercise 3

a

1 group discussions, 2 salary, 3 candidate, 4 references, 5 covering letter, 6 clients, 7 main objective, 8 internship experience, 9 new graduates, 10 interview stage

b

1 I believe there are five candidates for this job.

2 My main objective is to find a challenging job.

3 He was very lucky to reach the interview stage.

4 We try to communicate positively with our clients.

5 The best candidates took part in group discussions.

6 You need to provide at least three references.

7 New graduates should try to get some work experience.

8 Your first question should not be about your salary.

9 Please send us your CV with a covering letter. / Please send us a covering letter with your CV.

10 Internship experience is a requirement for this job.

exercise 4

a

1 C, 2 J, 3 A, 4 F, 5 H, 6 I, 7 G, 8 D, 9 E, 10 B

b

1 attributes, 2 pride, 3 thrives, 4 a must, 5 what, 6 fill

exercise 5

1 G, 2 D, 3 A, 4 I, 5 E, 6 H

exercise 6

1 of, 2 random, 3 holds, 4 well, 5 who, 6 too, 7 on, 8 for

exercise 7

1 L, 2 E, 3 D, 4 N, 5 K, 6 M, 7 B, 8 P, 9 O, 10 F, 11 I, 12 A, 13 G